

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

| In re Application of: |) |
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| Ramnauth et al. |) |
| Application No.: 10/635,693 |) |
| Filed: August 5, 2003 |) |

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Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

285 63 TALS

Carol Prentice

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

ر Dear Sir:

... STI

For:

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. \$1.56, Applicants wish to call

the attention of the Examiner to the following references:

U.S. PATENT(S):

| Patent No. | <u>Patentee</u> | Date of | Issue |
|------------|------------------|---------|-------|
| 3,572,182 | MacDonald et al. | Mar 23, | 1971 |
| 3,973,861 | Süssmuth | Aug 10, | 1976 |
| 4,672,726 | Delbecq et al. | Jun 16, | 1987 |
| 5,448,819 | Grassi | Sep 12, | 1995 |
| 5,704,743 | Goorsenberg | Jan 06, | 1998 |
| 5,716,171 | Malott et al | Feb 10, | 1998 |
| 5,803,679 | Heule | Sep 08, | 1998 |
| 5,927,911 | Steiner | Jul 27, | 1999 |
| 6,006,408 | Rogat | Dec 28, | 1999 |

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6,375,397

Lotz

Apr 23, 2002

Enclosed is a completed form PTO/SB/08A.

Consideration of these references by the Examiner is respectfully requested. To date, a first Office Action on the merits has not been received in connection with this application. This Information Disclosure Statement is therefore believed to be timely filed.

The submission of the listed documents is not intended as an admission that any such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicant does not waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove any listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: November 11, 2003

ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.: MBO-157

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3 2003 PTO/SB/08A (08-03)
Approved for use through 07/31/2006. OMB 0651-0031

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Substitute to Porto PMA PTO

Sheet 1

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

| Complete if Known | | | | |
|------------------------|-----------------------------------|--|--|--|
| Application Number | 10/635,693 | | | |
| Filing Date | | | | |
| First Named Inventor | August 5, 2003 RAMNAUTH ET AL. | | | |
| Art Unit | | | | |
| Examiner Name | | | | |
| Attorney Docket Number | MBO-157 | | | |

| Examiner | Cite | Document Number | Publication Date | T DOCUMENTS Name of Patentee or | Bogon Columna Line - 1415 |
|-----------|------|-----------------------------------------|------------------|----------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Initials* | No.1 | Number-Kind Code ^{2 (# known)} | MM-DD-YYYY | Applicant of Cited Document | Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear |
| | | ^{US-} 3,572,182 | Mar-23-1971 | MacDONALD | |
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| FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS | | | | | | |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------------------|-------------|----------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------|
| Examiner Initials* | Cite No. ¹ | Foreign Patent Document Publicat Date | Publication | Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document | Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages Or Relevant Figures Appear | Τ |
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| Examiner | | Date | |
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. There office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the LUSPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent CARLEGE AND CARLEGE A